1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT						
2	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA - WESTERN DIVISION						
3	HONORABLE GEORGE H. WU, U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE						
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5	MOOG, INC.,						
6	Plaintiff,						
7	vs. Case No. CV 22-9094						
8	SKYRYSE, INC., et al						
9	Defendants/						
10							
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12							
13	REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF TRIAL PROCEEDINGS MOTION TO DISMISS AND MOTION FOR						
14	TEMPORARY STAY HEARING THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023 8:30 A.M. LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA						
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22	TERRI A. HOURIGAN, CSR 3838, CRR, RPR						
23	FEDERAL OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER 350 W. First Street, ROOM 4311						
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1 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA; THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023 2 8:30 A.M. 3 --000--4 5 THE COURT: Let me call the matter of Moog versus 6 Skyryse. 7 Let me have appearances, starting with plaintiff's counsel first. 8 9 MR. ANDERSON: Good morning, Your Honor. Travis Anderson for plaintiff, Moog. 10 11 MR. NAQVI: Good morning, Your Honor. Kazim Naqvi 12 for plaintiff, Moog. 13 MS. ANDOH: Good morning, Your Honor. Rena Andoh 14 for plaintiff, Moog. 15 THE COURT: All right. For the defense? 16 MR. LUMISH: Good morning, Your Honor. Doug Lumish for Latham and Watkins. 17 18 MR. GROSS: Good morning, Your Honor. Gabe Gross, 19 Latham and Watkins, for the defendant, Skyryse. 20 MR. ZAHOORY: You also have Arman Zahoory from 21 Latham and Watkins for Skyryse. 22 THE COURT: All right. 23 MR. GILBERG: Good morning, Your Honor. Grant 24 Gilberg on behalf of Misook Kim. 25 MR. TENLEY: Good morning, Your Honor. Scott Tenley

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    on behalf of Robert Alin Pilkington.
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               THE COURT: All right. On the telephone, we have?
               MR. POLOGNE: It is Joseph Pologne for Moog.
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               THE COURT: We are here on various motions to
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    dismiss, et cetera.
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          I issued a tentative on this -- on these motions. I
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    presume both sides have seen it?
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               MS. ANDOH: Yes, Your Honor.
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               MR. ANDERSON: Yes, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: All right. I will just do them in the
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    order that they were discussed in the tentative.
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          Does somebody want to argue anything on the motion to
    stay?
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               MR. LUMISH: May I take off my mask, Your Honor?
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               THE COURT:
                           Sure.
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               MR. LUMISH: Doug Lumish, Your Honor, Latham and
    Watkins on behalf of Skyryse.
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          We appreciate your tentative, it was very thorough.
    took on the bulk of our arguments, which we understand where
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    you are coming from.
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          I did want to make a couple of points, if I might?
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               THE COURT: Sure.
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               MR. LUMISH: One is on the indictment issue. Your
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    Honor denied the motion without prejudice. So first point of
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    clarification, which is, if we were to bring the motion again,
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should there be an indictment? I certainly don't want to get in any hot water with the Court.

THE COURT: No. That would be an event that would be monumentally different than the situation you currently have.

Also, we would know if there is an indictment, what the nature of the charges are, et cetera. So therefore, we would have a better sense if there is going to be a claim of Fifth Amendment, you know, raising the Fifth Amendment insofar as certain discovery and depositions, et cetera, then we could understand it better.

MR. LUMISH: Thank you, Your Honor.

That dovetails into the other point I would ask to make, which is, I think we briefed the law, and Your Honor is right that there are certainly law that disfavors, but doesn't bar stays when there hasn't yet been an indictment.

What I don't think the papers talk much about, so I'm trying it from a different angle, is why that is the case.

What I submit to the Court is the reason that is the case is because Courts and parties don't want to get out in front of the U.S. Attorney and guess at what their indictment might be and be wrong.

THE COURT: Well no, what I have a problem with is that oftentimes what happens is the civil action becomes hostage to the criminal action, and there is no impetus to the

criminal action as long as the defendants are willing to waive their right to a speedy trial, there is no impetus necessarily to bring those matters in a speedy fashion.

So, therefore, I'm sitting, especially where there are other claims that are involved in the action, and we are sitting there waiting for something to happen in the criminal matter, then it goes on and on and on, et cetera, so that is one reason.

MR. LUMISH: We tried to address that, Your Honor, by asking for a temporary stay.

THE COURT: I don't understand. What would the temporary stay do?

In other words, if I were to stay this matter for 30 days, 60 days, 90 days, or 120 days, either the indictment is going to come down, in which case, at that point you can make the request, or the indictment doesn't come down, in which case what am I supposed to do after 120 days and there is no indictment? Give it another 120 days, et cetera, who knows?

The better question, not necessarily better, but more interesting question to my mind at this point in time, if there something, for example, it is because I have denied the request for stay and the matter goes forward, and assuming that there are various items of discovery that a particular individual who has a Fifth Amendment right, unlike a corporation, exercises that Fifth Amendment right.

Normally, the downside is that the exercise of the Fifth Amendment can be used as commented on in a civil action.

However, if I were to allow the situation where a defendant were to initially raise a Fifth Amendment objection but, you know, because of certain things that would happen later on, I would allow them to withdraw that objection and have further discovery renewed insofar as those areas where the individual raised the Fifth Amendment, would there be any problem with that?

MR. LUMISH: I think the answer to that would be depending on the timing.

So if we ended up in a jury trial in a civil action -
THE COURT: Obviously. I don't think you guys will
end up in a jury trial, given that the normal course of the
criminal indictment, if it comes down, will come down way
before this matter goes in front of a jury, because this matter
is somewhat complicated, and so I expect that the discovery
period will be -- I won't skint on discovery for you guys, as I
normally do, because this case is complicated.

MR. LUMISH: Your Honor, in this scenario, if Your Honor were to do what you just said, you deny the stay, we go forward, one of the individual defendants takes the Fifth, but then the case is stayed post-indictment, and we're able to get discovery after the criminal case is over, then no, I think that would resolve that concern.

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THE COURT: In fact, no offense to your clients, but
if they are indicted, and that case goes criminally, then all
the stuff that would be conducted in discovery, and a lot of
that stuff would already be produced.
           MR. LUMISH: Much of it has already been produced.
I could see, Your Honor, I'm not going to persuade you on this,
so what I would rather do is take more of our time for some of
the other issues.
     The individual counsel may have something more to say on
the stay.
           THE COURT: Let me hear defense counsel for the
individual defendant, anything you want to argue?
           MR. GILBERG: Briefly, Your Honor as counsel has
addressed.
           THE REPORTER: Please state your name.
           THE COURT: She has forgotten you.
           MR. GILBERG: This is Grant Gilberg on behalf of
Misook Kim.
     Just a couple of brief points. On overlap, I think this
case is pretty straightforward.
           THE COURT: Not from the tentative, it's not.
           MR. GILBERG: In terms of what they are alleging,
they are alleging theft of trade secrets, and that is exactly
what the U.S. Attorneys Office is investigating.
     We don't have to really -- this isn't a situation where
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    Moog brought their lawsuit, and the U.S. Attorney's Office,
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    getting their Google alert, sweeps in and starts investigating.
               THE COURT: Let me ask this, normally, it is not
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    that common for the U. S. Attorney's Office to sweep in in any
    trade secrets case, but is it a situation because the trade
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    secrets involved items that might have some military aspects or
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    some aspects of federal government's involvement? That is the
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    reason why the U.S. Attorneys are popping up?
               MR. GILBERG: I can only speculate that is probably
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    a question for Moog, but I would note that when I was in the
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    U.S. Attorneys Office, these cases were often handled in major
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    fraud.
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          This case is not a major fraud, as it is, in the national
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    security section, so that would be support for Your Honor's
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    thought.
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               THE COURT: All right.
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               MR. GROSS: Just so -- that is the point on overlap.
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    This is a case that Moog brought to the U. S. Attorney's
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    Office, and even though there is complexity to the technology,
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    the issue in this case is the theft of trade secrets, and
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    that's what the U.S. Attorney's Office is investigating.
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    referenced that in our papers.
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          We have had much communication with the Office on that
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    point, and they continually referred us to Moog's complaint
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    when we had questions about what their investigation is about.
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The last point I just wanted to underscore for the Court is the prejudice to the individual defendants is not only the invocation of the Fifth Amendment, but it is the financial considerations that are involved here.

Here, we're dealing with an investigation by the U. S. Attorney's Office, and the clients are in the middle of a dispute between two corporations, and they are faced with a prospect of having to litigate both simultaneously.

And that, for my client, at least, she's unemployed, has been since she's been let go from Skyryse, and that is an incredible burden, and something I think the Court, with all of the other factors, can weigh.

THE COURT: Well, is she going to hire a separate criminal counsel or, and if she doesn't have the financial capability, she could always go with the Public Defender's Office.

MR. GILBERG: Certainly, our hope is that there will not be a need to hire a separate counsel post-indictment because there won't be an indictment, but I'm her counsel in both this matter and with respect to the investigation.

THE COURT: In this case, you are involved anyway.

MR. GILBERG: Absolutely. But it's the enormity of the costs that are associated with both being in this litigation and dealing with the U.S. Attorney's Office. I just raise it for the Court's consideration.

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               THE COURT: You have Latham and Watkins doing most
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    of the work for your side anyway.
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          Don't you find -- won't you be able to rely on their good
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    lawyering?
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               MR. GILBERG: We are very pleased to be sitting at
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    the table with them, but as the Court will see in the coming
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    weeks, there is a number of issues that are being directed by
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    Moog at our clients only, and we have to take the laboring oar
    on, and we are trying to be efficient on it, but there is only
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    so much overlap.
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               THE COURT: Anything else from you?
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               MR. TENLEY: No. Thank you, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT:
                           So my ruling -- tentative ruling on the
    motion to stay, will be my final ruling on the motion to stay.
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          On the individual defendant's motion to dismiss.
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               MR. GILBERG: Your Honor, we would submit on the
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    tentative.
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               MR. NAQVI: Your Honor, Kazim Naqvi from Moog.
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    would submit on the tentative as well. Thank you for the time
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    that went into it.
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               THE COURT: My pleasure. If I knew you guys were
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    going to be so short, I would have called your earlier.
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    thought you were going to be a lot longer, in which case, I
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    would have called your case earlier.
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          A lot of other ones went a lot longer than I thought they
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would or should.

The only one question I had was insofar as the motions to dismiss, even though I ruled against dismissing the sixth count cause of action for conspiracy, generally -- I was thinking about it again this morning -- generally, most of the time conspiracies have a separate cause of action. So normally what it is is a form of liability; in other words, if you have another basis for, like, interference with a contract or some other tort type of -- like, fraud or something of that sort, you don't separately charge a conspiracy if there is more than a couple of people involved in accomplishing the particular impropriety. You just say, we bring a cause of action for fraud, and, you know, we include all of these defendants and some of these defendants are included, because they joined in with the particular bad conduct.

So, in a sense, you don't really need a civil conspiracy cause of action, and there is case law, at least, in California that basically says that a conspiracy is not a cause of action.

I referenced the cases such as Applied Equipment versus Litton, 7 Cal.4th 503 at pages 510 to 511. It's a 1994 case.

I just throw that out now. I'm not necessarily going to change my tentative, but it seems to me at some point it might very well be there should not be a separate cause of action for conspiracy, but I leave that up to you guys to resolve later on. I just throw that out.

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So my tentative on the motion to dismiss, the individual
defendant's motion to dismiss, I will make my tentative my
final.
     As to the Moog motion to dismiss?
           MS. ANDOH: Your Honor, Rena Andoh for plaintiff
Mooq.
     We really appreciate Your Honor's tentative, it was
extremely informative.
     I think there was probably only one small boulder that I'm
going to attempt to roll off the mountain, but other than that
I think we're going to rest on the tentative.
     The one issue that I wanted to discuss with the Court with
respect to your tentative has to do with SOW-1, first statement
of work.
     And I'm doing it as a topic, as opposed to a cause of
action, because as Your Honor --
           THE COURT: Well, let me ask, what language
specifically in the tentative are you referring to at this
point in time?
           MS. ANDOH: Your Honor, I'm looking at page 23 of
Your Honor's tentative.
           THE COURT: Yes.
           MS. ANDOH: It has to do with the dismissal of the
fraud claim. In this, there were four different statements
that were plead.
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You found that Statements 1 and 2, should be dismissed as unactionable future statements.

And then you found that 3 and 4 should proceed, so this has to do with Statements 3 and 4 in the fraud claim.

This specifically has to do with the statement of work. So starting at the top of the page, you write: In addition, Skyryse argues under the terms of their statement of work, the parties, quote, intended to engage in the multi-phase development initiative, unquote.

And in our reply, Moog contends that it never agreed to enter into Phases 2 through 4.

You then go to say: Here, the parties submit whether the SOW obligated Moog to proceed to Phases 2 to 4 in their collaboration. Both parties can point to language in the SOW that appears to support their positions.

Then you say because the SOW is capable of two or more reasonable interpretations, specifically, as to whether or not Moog was obligated to proceed to Phase 2, the SOW is ambiguous and leaves doubt as to the parties' intent.

So, Your Honor, we would assert that the SOW is not actually ambiguous and not actually subject to multiple forms of interpretation.

If we turn to Exhibit C of the counterclaims, and this is the actual SOW itself, it would be page 2 of the SOW, using the page numbering, so it's actually probably the fourth page.

It's Section 4, the program overview.

And what it actually says is, Your Honor: The parties intend to engage in a multi-phase development initiative, but this SOW shall only cover the first phase, and subsequent phases will be mutually agreed by the parties with separate and distinct SOWs.

The second, third, and fourth phases are described for informational purposes only, and will be subject to change following completion of the initial phase.

So the contract, which the parties don't dispute, was fully incorporated by reference into the counterclaims, expressly says that this is -- this SOW is only for Phase 1.

Your Honor, when you found that they said the fraud, third and fourth assertions could move forward, the basis on which, as we understand it, Your Honor found that was the case, was because it was an actionable misrepresentation that they reasonably relied on.

What we would assert is on the basis of the Section 4 language, that in fact the third and fourth misrepresentations should be dismissed because they are on all fours with the Babbe (phonetic) case.

THE COURT: All right. Let me hear a response from the defense. What is your response to that?

MR. GROSS: Thank you, Your Honor. It's a point we were hoping to discuss with you too today for.

THE COURT: Actually hoping?

MR. GROSS: Yeah, we did want to address this part of the tentative ruling on the way the Court addressed the different statements in the fraud claim.

Your Honor, the view of the SOW that you just heard from plaintiff's counsel is their view of the contract. It's their interpretation of it. We dispute it entirely.

There is language in the contract, and Skyryse has summarized it on page 42 of the counterclaims, that is paragraphs 31 and 32 of the counterclaims, that we think stand for the exact opposite of what Moog thinks it stands for.

Its statements manifesting and expressing the parties' mutual intent to enter into a long-term multi-phase contract with details about each phase, the objectives of them, the tasks the parties were to perform, and, for sure, they agreed that future phases would be subject to change by mutual agreement, but we think the SOW on its face, absolutely binds the parties to the mutual intent to a long-term commitment.

I understand there is a dispute about that, but at this stage, on a Rule 12(b)(6) motion, that dispute needs to be -- or the inferences need to be resolved in Skyryse's favor.

That is the first point I would like to make about this view of the contract.

I think you are right, if there is any ambiguity, it can't be resolved right now. We frankly think it is not ambiguous

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and should be interpreted only one way, which is the way I just
described Skyryse viewing it.
           THE COURT: Let me hear from the plaintiff, any
brief response?
           MS. ANDOH: Sure, Your Honor. You keep hearing the
word "intend" and "intent" when Skyryse describes Phases 2
through 4, and that is the problem here, is that it was an
agreement to agree with respect to Phases 2 through 4, and it's
not ambiguous in the contract, if that is the case.
     Nowhere inside the physical language of the agreement,
does it say they are obligated to continue with Phases 2
through 4.
     So our position would be that as a result of that, there
could not be an actionable misrepresentation with respect to
Phases 2 through 4.
           THE COURT: I will give the defendant 30 seconds to
respond.
           MR. GROSS:
                       Thank you, Your Honor.
     Of course, we disagree. Exhibit C has within it, and
beyond the provision that Ms. Andoh just cited, schedules about
all of the requirements Phases 2, 3, and 4, the express
manifestation of the parties' mutual intent to enter into a
long-term agreement is an agreement.
     The mutual intent of the parties is what the Court's
discern when they are interpreting agreements. Here, we see it
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    expressed their intent to enter into that long term agreement.
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          Again, I understand we have a dispute here, it can't be
    resolved in a factfinding way in Moog's favor at this stage.
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               THE COURT: What else does the plaintiff want to
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    arque?
               MS. ANDOH: Your Honor, I just note that this
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    particular issue, if the Court chooses to alter its tentative
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    in any way, would also impact the second count, the good faith
    and fair dealing count.
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               THE COURT: All right. I will look at this issue a
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    little bit more.
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          What else does either side want to argue as to the --
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               MS. ANDOH: That is the only boulder, and I'm
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    sticking to it, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: All right.
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               MR. GROSS: Thank you, Your Honor. I have two.
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          One, is on this particular topic about the tentative on
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    the fraud ruling, and my colleague, Mr. Zahoory, we broke up
    the counterclaim in terms of counts. I will handle a couple of
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    issues on Counts 3 and 4, and Mr. Zahoory has some relating to
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    the interference and unfair competition claims.
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               THE COURT: All right.
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               MR. GROSS: On this point about the SOW and the
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    fraud claims that Skyryse brought, the tentative ruling does
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    break the statements into the four categories that Ms. Andoh
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mentioned.

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What we would like to spend a moment talking about is how in the tentative, the Court found Moog's reliance on a case called *Roots Ready Made Systems to be persuasive.

It was raised for the first time in the rely brief. I wanted to spend a moment discussing it.

In this context on pages 21 and 22 of the tentative ruling, the Court is referring to what it calls Statements 1 and 2. They are statements relating -- that Moog made relating to its long-term commitment to Skyryse, and its continuation of working on the collaboration the two companies formed.

The Roots Ready Made System -- excuse me, Roots Ready Made Garments case, the opinion by Judge Breyer, it did, as the Court noted, find future statements or statements about future intent to be unactionable and not actionable fraudulent claims, but it was a really different situation there.

What the Court held in *Roots Ready*, was one, the statements that were unactionable were really more vague than the types of statements that Skyryse has alleged Moog made.

The statements were such as this, that the Gap, the company intended to develop a long-term relationship with the company called *Roots*, not that it was already in one and committed to it, it intended to develop one.

It would attempt to find a way to continue to do business with Roots.

The problem there, Your Honor, was that those sorts of statements were at variance -- at odds with the terms of their written agreements.

Judge Breyer makes that point clearly in page Star 5 and Star 6 of the *Roots Ready Made Garments* case. That citation, by the way, is 2008 Westlaw 239254. On those pages, Judge Breyer makes clear that --

THE COURT: Are you talking about page 6?

MR. GROSS: Page 5 and 6, as a matter of fact, it's the end of 5 and beginning of 6.

The last paragraph of page 5, it begins by describing that the Court needed to reject promissory fraud claims that are based on statements at a variance with the written agreement.

Towards the end of that same paragraph, he describes that Roots Ready didn't push back against Gap's request to form written agreements, only with one party, called Cabana, a agreement that expressly contradict it -- the promises made to Roots.

The reason I point that out, Your Honor, is because as you can tell from our discussion of the SOW a moment ago from Skyryse's perspective and according to Skyryse's allegations, the parties had already made very clear their intent and commitment to the long-term relationship and the false statements.

THE COURT: It seems to me that both sides are

referring to different language -- different language of the provisions. And, you know, that is the reason why there is obviously a disagreement.

But it's not up to this Court at this time to resolve

those differences. The language is what the language is.

Maybe at some point in time the Court will have to interpret
the language of the contract, but it's not going to do so at
the time of motion to dismiss.

 $$\operatorname{MR.}$ GROSS: We think that is the appropriate approach here.

The point I wanted to make is that these two statements that the Court did find unactionable were in fact consistent with our view of the agreement and that makes them very different from the Court -- from the statements that Judge Breyer found inactionable in *Roots Ready*.

THE COURT: I'm going hear response from the plaintiff. He's going to chip away at your boulder.

MS. ANDOH: Yes, Your Honor.

Well, again, with respect to this question of ambiguity, I think you can call a contract ambiguous all you want to in oral agreement, but in the end of the day, the language of the contract is the language of the contract. We would appreciate if the Court chooses to take another view of the other two sections that they are referring to that they claim are inconsistent, because in fact they are not.

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          Those would be Sections 5 and 9 of the SOW.
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          As far as Mr. Gross's arguments with respect to Roots,
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    obviously, we don't see that there is any incongruity
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    between --
               THE COURT: I will take a look at the statements
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    insofar as this particular aspect is concerned. I will take
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    another look.
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          Other than that, does anybody else want to argue anything?
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               MR. GROSS: I do have another point, Your Honor, if
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    Ms. Andoh has completed.
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               THE COURT: She's waiting for you.
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               MR. GROSS: I'm sure.
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               MS. ANDOH: Your Honor, only punching.
               THE COURT: She's aiming, she just needs a brief
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    moment to focus.
               MR. GROSS: Your Honor, I would like to address the
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    tentative ruling on the breach of contract claim, and in
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    particular, the Court's ruling about the forum selection clause
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    and its applicability.
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          We understand if the Court is inclined to find the forum
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    selection clause, which is in one of four contracts, it's in
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    the terms and conditions, that it certainly applies to that
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    breach of contract claim for the terms and conditions, and the
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    Court is inclined to dismiss it for that reason.
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          The Court has also indicated it's inclined to find a forum
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1 selection clause would also apply to another contract, the 2019 2 NDA. 3 And it may have been, because we didn't clarify in the 4 briefing, but it seems the Court was left with the impression that there is no dispute among the parties that the forum 5 6 selection clause in the terms and conditions controls how 7 forums should be selected in the event of the breach of the 2019 NDA. 8 I'm concerned that if the Court adopts its tentative as a final as to both of those contracts, it would contradict some 10 11 truly expressed language in the pleadings, which is in both the 12 2019 NDA and the terms and conditions. 13 Here, is what I mean by that, Your Honor. 14 There is no dispute that the terms and conditions 15 incorporate the 2019 NDA, that is not in dispute. 16 The terms and conditions are Exhibit D, the Skyryse's counterclaims, and the relevant provision is Provision 23. 17 Ιt 18 refers to the 15 March, 2019 NDA, and it says it is --19 THE COURT: Let me stop. You didn't argue this in 20 your briefing, did you? Let's be blunt. 21 MR. GROSS: No, Your Honor. This is not the 22 briefing, which I why I would like to spend a minute on it now. 23 THE COURT: Why would I entertain something that is 24 not argued in the briefing?

You know, that's a given, why would I bother to do that?

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               MR. GROSS: We're happy to raise it with the amended
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    pleading, Your Honor, if you don't want to hear about it today.
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               THE COURT: Okay. I'm not going to preclude you
 4
    from raising it later. I'm not going to entertain it now,
    again, even if I decide -- then I have to look through all of
 5
 6
    this additional stuff, I have to do some independent research,
 7
    which I don't want to do anymore, I have done enough in this
 8
    case.
          So I will allow you to raise it later on, because you are
10
    not precluded from doing so later on.
11
               MR. GROSS: Fair enough.
12
               THE COURT: What else, then? Anything?
13
               MR. ZAHOORY: Yes, please, Your Honor.
14
          I will actually not raise one argument, just given your
15
    comments right now, but I will try to nudge one of our tortious
    interference claims over the edge.
16
17
          Really, what I wanted to focus on, Your Honor, is with the
18
    intentional interference with contract claims.
19
               THE COURT: What page of the tentative are you
20
    arguing about?
21
               MR. ZAHOORY: I am at -- so this is pages 30 and 31
22
    of your tentative, Your Honor.
23
               THE COURT: Okay.
24
               MR. ZAHOORY: So, thank you for your guidance in the
25
    tentative ruling.
```

I wanted to just respond to the paragraphs about alleging whether Moog was aware of the contracts at issue with which we believe they were interfering, and I think the key thing here and maybe your response will help us better understand the import of your ruling and we could use that on amendment, is California law really focuses not on the terms of the contract, but that there is a contractual relationship that exists, right?

I would point the Court to the PG & E case by the California Supreme Court, which mentions that it's the contractual relationship, not the terms of the contract that is protected from interference.

Here, if we look to Paragraph 87 of our complaint, most topic executives identify Robinson Helicopters as our partner, and that they describe a scheme to exert pressure on us by contacting our partner.

So we don't think there is any doubt they were aware that Robinson is our partner, and whether or not they are aware of the specific contractual terms underlying a relationship with Robinson, we think is not the relevant point as opposed to the relationship itself.

We think this has practical considerations to keep in mind, too, because many times parties are not aware of the specific terms of the underlying contracts between two other third parties, which is why, if that was the rule, it would be

1 almost impossible to bring these types of claims. 2 But in this circumstance, where we know that their own quoted statements show that they were aware of this 3 4 partnership, we think that is enough, at least, under 5 California law. 6 So I wanted to point that out. If you have any responses 7 I would be happy to take it. 8 There is one other piece to your tentative on that counterclaim, which I would like to respond to as well. 10 THE COURT: Let me just ask, on what basis are you 11 saying that the -- on what basis is the defendant arguing that 12 Moog was specifically aware of that contractual relationship 13 between your client and Robinson Helicopter? 14 MR. ZAHOORY: We would point, Your Honor, to 15 Paragraph 87 of our counterclaims. This is a quote directly from one of Moog's top executives to the company's CEO, and it 16 17 says: We are already working to leverage relationships with 18 Robinson Helicopter, who is one of Skyryse's partners. 19 In addition to that, we also --20 THE COURT: Let me stop you. What is the response 21 from the plaintiff on that? 22 MS. ANDOH: Your Honor, again, I mean, all of their 23 arguments hinge around this one statement that we were 24 apparently aware of, at least according to the pleading that we 25 were a partner of Robinson. That doesn't tell us anything at

all about what that partner -- what the parameters of that partnership were, what the terms of any agreements would be.

You know, it's a little bit like shadowboxing. You know, at the end of the day, I think the bottom line for us is that we believe Your Honor got it right in the tentative with respect to the lack of identification of a specific relationship that we intended to interfere in.

THE COURT: Let me ask, if my recollection serves me, did I dismiss this one with prejudice or something like that?

I gave leave to amend, didn't I?

In other words, insofar as I think -- in other words, at one point in time you said on the basis of information and belief, but apparently, you are basing it on something else other than information and belief. You are basing it at least on that comment.

Let me just ask, even though Robinson Helicopter may be a partner for some aspects, you have to show why the conduct of the plaintiff would have given rise to some sort of interference with that partnership in some way, shape, or form?

MR. ZAHOORY: Absolutely, Your Honor. I think the cases we cite in briefing recognize that when a big player in the industry, like Moog, reaches out to a partner like Robinson, that in and of itself inhibits our quiet enjoyment of our relationship with Robinson, right, it's hard for us to be

```
1
    able to allege that because this is the communications they
 2
    have had with Robinson, right? That is a secret to us that we
    have only discovered in discovery as part of the information
 3
 4
    they provided us to date.
 5
          We are eager to --
               THE COURT: Let me put it this way, I will allow you
 6
 7
    to amend it. I'm certainly sure that you are going to throw in
    a lot more.
 8
          What else?
               MR. ZAHOORY: Your Honor, we going to take this
10
11
    under submission. We appreciate your feedback.
12
               THE COURT: I will take this matter under
13
    submission. I will indicate whether or not I'm going to change
14
    my tentative, and if so, at what point.
15
          All right. Let me ask, at this stage do we have something
    else scheduled?
16
17
               MS. ANDOH: We do, Your Honor. We have our 26(f)
18
    scheduled for a week from today.
19
               THE COURT: How exciting.
20
          Hopefully, I will get something out one way or the other
21
    before then.
22
          Everybody, have a very nice day.
23
                (The proceedings concluded at 11:41 p.m.)
24
25
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1
                     CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL REPORTER
 2
 3
    COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
                             )
    STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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                             )
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                I, TERRI A. HOURIGAN, Federal Official Realtime
 6
7
    Court Reporter, in and for the United States District Court for
 8
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                                 /s/ TERRI A. HOURIGAN
20
                         TERRI A. HOURIGAN, CSR NO. 3838, CCRR
                             Federal Official Court Reporter
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